

United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Energy Technology
Development Team

Fact Sheet-- Energy

Energy Awareness Tool: Nitrogen

Description

This web-based tool was the second in a series developed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to help farmers, ranchers, and land managers estimate the costs of applying various nitrogen fertilizers and the potential savings that can be gained with the appropriate placement, timing of application, and use of nitrogen efficiency-enhancing products.

Uses

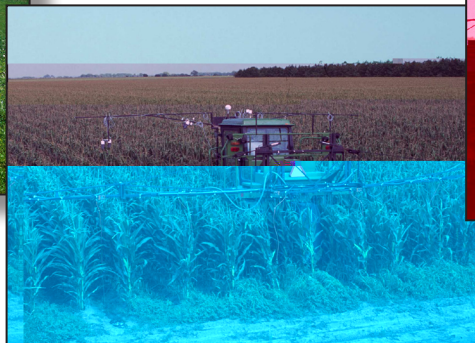
The nitrogen tool gives producers a general idea of the savings they might incur by implementing simple changes in fertilizer management. The results are based on user-specified nitrogen fertilizer rates rather than on recommended rates. Users are encouraged to consult with their local NRCS office, Extension Service, or Technical Service Provider to further refine their fertilizer management activities.

Features

To run the program, you need your zip code, the primary type of nitrogen fertilizer you use, how much nitrogen you apply to each crop annually, when and how you currently apply the fertilizer, and whether or not you use a nitrogen efficiency product such as a slow release product or nitrification inhibitor. The tool will compare your current nitrogen application methods with application methods that are recommended for reducing the environmental loss of nitrogen. It will provide you with recommended methods for reducing the unnecessary loss of nitrogen as well as what the difference could mean in terms of monetary cost-savings.



To use this and other energy estimator tools, go to:
<http://energytools/sc.egov.usda.gov>



For more information on the tools and energy conservation, contact Stefanie Aschmann, Energy Team Leader, at 503-273-2408.

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